

Message Text

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EUR:AAHARTMAN

S/S - MR. BRIDGES

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TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

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USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY

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TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR, TU

SUBJECT: SECRETARY'S MEETING OCTOBER 6 WITH CYPRUS FOREIGN
MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES

1. SECRETARY MET FOR 45 MINUTES IN NEW YORK AFTERNOON
OCTOBER 6 WITH CYPRUS FOREIGN MINISTER CHRISTOPHIDES. DIS-
CUSSION CENTERED ON CYPRUS NEGOTIATIONS, AND ON TECHNIQUES
WHICH MIGHT GET THEM RESTARTED AND POINTED IN RIGHT DIREC-
TION.

2. SECRETARY EXPRESSED COMPLETE SUPPORT FOR INTERCOMMUNAL
NEGOTIATING FORUM UNDER AEGIS OF UN SYG WALDHEIM. PROBLEM
WE ALL FACED WAS HOW TO BREATHE LIFE INTO THESE TALKS. SEC-
RETARY SAID IT WAS IMPORTANT TO KEEP NEGOTIATIONS GOING,
EVEN IF IMMEDIATE PROGRESS COULD NOT BE REGISTERED. CHRISTO
PHIDES SAID HE SHARED THIS VIEW. UNFORTUNATELY, TURKS AT

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THIS POINT SEEMED UNWILLING OR UNABLE, BECAUSE OF TURKISH

DOMESTIC SITUATION, TO TALK IN CONCRETE TERMS ON CYPRUS ISSUES.

3. SECRETARY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT PROSPECTS FOR PROGRESS BEFORE TURKISH ELECTIONS MIGHT NOT BE BRIGHT, BUT SAID THAT IT WAS VITAL TO KEEP NEGOTIATIONS GOING BOTH AS A MEANS OF KEEPING GREEK CYPRIOT CLAIMS ALIVE AND TO PREVENT THE TURKS

FROM FURTHER CEMENTING AND LEGITIMIZING THE PRESENT SITUATION.

4. CHRISTOPHIDES QUESTIONED SECRETARY CLOSELY ON DETAILS AND PURPOSE OF HIS FIVE POINTS ON CYPRUS IN UNGA SPEECH. SECRETARY RESPONDED THAT WE HAD REVISED 1975 PRINCIPLES SOMEWHAT AND HAD NOW BEGUN CONSULTATION WITH WESTERN EUROPEANS IN EFFORT TO SEE WHETHER SLIGHTLY EXPANDED SET OF PRINCIPLES COULD BE DEVELOPED, WHICH ENJOYED BROAD SUPPORT AND WHICH PARTIES COULD USE AS POINT OF REFERENCE OR MEANS OF PROCEEDING WITH SUBSTANTIVE DISCUSSIONS OF KEY ISSUES SUCH AS TERRITORY AND CONSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS. SECRETARY SAID HE WAS NOT CERTAIN THESE PRINCIPLES WOULD BE USEFUL TO THE PARTIES, BUT HE INVITED THE GREEK-CYPRIOTS TO REVIEW THEM CAREFULLY AND GIVE HIM THEIR CANDID ASSESSMENT. WE DID NOT SEEK ENDORSEMENT OR APPROVAL OF THE PRINCIPLES, BUT ONLY SOME INDICATION THAT OUR APPROACH AND CONCEPT RUN ALONG USEFUL LINES. WE HAD ALREADY HAD SUCH A PUBLIC INDICATION FROM BITSIOS AND CAGLAYANGIL.

5. SECRETARY ALSO EXPLAINED THAT CURRENT SET OF PRINCIPLES WAS ONLY A STARTER. IT COULD BE EXPANDED LATER IN MANY DIRECTIONS IF PARTIES FELT THAT USEFUL. IN THIS CONNECTION, SECRETARY TOLD CHRISTOPHIDES THAT CURRENT MOMENT DID NOT SEEM RIPE FOR REALLY DETAILED POSITIONS OR MAPS BEING PUT FORWARD BY US OR WESTERN EUROPEANS. SUCH POSITIONS COULD BE DEVELOPED LATER, ONCE VIEWS OF PARTIES HAD NARROWED TO POINT WHERE INSERTION OF DETAILED POSITIONS FROM OUTSIDE COULD FACILITATE AGREEMENT.

6. SECRETARY SUGGESTED THAT LATER THIS YEAR A MORE DETAILED DISCUSSION WITH CYPRIOTS MIGHT BE USEFUL TO DEVISE
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LONG-TERM STRATEGY. CHRISTOPHIDES JUMPED AT OPPORTUNITY, AND SAID HE WOULD WELCOME CHANCE TO TALK TO SECRETARY IN NOVEMBER, WHEN HE RETURNED TO US TO PARTICIPATE IN UN DEBATE ON CYPRUS. SECRETARY EXTENDED INVITATION FOR CHRISTOPHIDES TO COME TO WASHINGTN AT THAT TIME. ROBINSON

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